

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



- 1494—Jamaica discovered by Columbus and named St. Jago by him.
- 1662—Queen Mary II. of England born.
- 1670—The Hudson's Bay Company formed in England.
- 1707—Legislative union of England and Scotland put into effect.
- 1775—The Quebec Act became law, providing for the government of Canada by Governor and Council.
- 1776—Adoption of the Pine Tree flag by great and general court of Massachusetts.
- 1788—Maryland ratified the Constitution of the United States.
- 1808—Spanish organized a revolt against Napoleon... Charles IV. of Spain abdicated in favor of Bonaparte... Union Temperance Society formed in Saratoga county, New York, this being the beginning of the Prohibition movement in the United States.
- 1827—French National Guard disbanded.
- 1854—First railroad opened in Brazil.
- 1856—Montgomery bridge fell.
- 1859—Colorado river expedition ended.
- 1865—Sir Samuel Cunard, founder of the Cunard steamship line, died.
- 1877—Occupation of Bayazid by the Russians.
- 1878—First elevated trains run on Third avenue in New York City.
- 1881—First and tunnel in the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway.
- 1882—Charles S. Parnell, the Irish leader, released from Kilmainham jail.
- 1885—Col. Otter attacked the Canadian rebels at Cut Knife Creek.
- 1888—Henry M. Stanley found Emin Pasha on the shores of Albert Nyanza.
- 1894—Many lives lost by earthquakes in Venezuela... International bimetallic conference met in London.
- 1898—Spanish fleet destroyed in battle of Manila bay.
- 1903—Landslide at Frank, B. C., with the loss of seventy-five lives.
- 1905—A score of lives lost in a tornado at Laredo, Texas... Steamer Falk wrecked off Lands End, with loss of nearly 100 lives.

Dr. Hilprecht's Final Reply.

In the form of a book of 350 pages just from the press, Horace V. Hilprecht of the University of Pennsylvania replies to the charges made against him in connection with the collection of Nippur tablets now in the possession of that university. The book recounts the evidence presented before the committee of trustees resulting in his complete exoneration by them, and explains to his own satisfaction the circumstances out of which grew this famous scientific controversy. The first charge was that of literary dishonesty in having spoken of three of the tablets as being found by himself in 1900, whereas they were said to have been purchased by the members of an earlier expedition. Hilprecht now says that his books under dispute were not strictly scientific, and that numerous notes were not wanted by his publishers. Hence he had not added the note telling where the tablets had been bought. Another charge was that of having retained property belonging to the university. This arose from the fact that with his own money he had made excavations at Ebla independent of those conducted by the university. Some of his finds he had given to the university, but others he had retained. The accusers also held that the tablets were not of a literary character and were not properly called a "temple library." Hilprecht replies to this with testimony of other scientists. In conclusion he asserts that two men have been his antagonists, Rev. Dr. Peters and Prof. Morris Jastrow, Jr. The animus of the former Hilprecht attributes to the criticisms of the Peters expeditions in the Hilprecht books. He accuses Jastrow of underhand and dishonest efforts to belittle the public mind and poison it against the accused.

To Cure for the "Drunkards."

Mayor Ezra S. Meeks of Harrisburg, Pa., has ordered the police department to see that drunken men are helped to their homes instead of being arrested, and to compel the saloon proprietors to take care of the men found drunk in or near their saloons. Mayor Meeks holds that it is not right to send these men to the lockup so long as they are not troubling any one. Of course, the criminal drunkards will be dealt with summarily and the habitual drunkards will be sent to jail to sober up, after which the mayor will take them in hand personally and give them a chance to get hold of themselves. He goes on the theory that drunkenness is a disease. Whenever a man is taken home the fact will be recorded for future reference.

Troops for Night Riders.

Gov. Wilson of Kentucky has ordered Brig. Gen. Williams to take charge of troops at Murray, the scene of recent night rider outrages, and has gone to Callaway county to consult with the public about the prosecution of cases involving the riders.

Flames Sweep Ohio Town.

Fire that started in the Mayor's office destroyed all town records and papers, burned the police station, the fire apparatus building, and several structures in the business district of Coalton, Ohio.

FROM THE COMMONER

MR. BRYAN'S PAPER

Secretary Taft on Trusts.

Secretary Taft is rapidly disclosing his ignorance on the trust question, for to believe him ignorant is more charitable than to believe that he does not intend to interfere with the trusts, although his language would justify even this belief. He takes Mr. Bryan to task for favoring the extermination of trusts, and says that to exterminate trusts would be to exterminate industry. The Secretary desires to regulate and control the trusts. But has his party not been "regulating" and "controlling" for some eleven years now? And have we not more trusts now than we had when the regulating and controlling began? The trust family is a family big enough to satisfy the President's ideas of the size of a family, and the birth rate is greater than the death rate. The administration has commenced suit against a few trusts, but not against many, and the trusts are still gentle enough to come up and eat out of the hand of the administration. What has been done in regard to the steel trust? Did it not swallow up the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company? And was it not given out that the swallowing was done after the administration had been consulted? Is the steel trust fighting Secretary Taft? And what about the International Harvester Company? Have the farmers secured any relief yet? And what about the paper trust? The steel trust has something like a billion dollars of water in its stock; it can afford to contribute ten millions to the Republican campaign fund, because it can get back many times that out of a Republican victory, and this is only one trust out of many. How can the people hope to regulate or control trusts when the trusts, by the election of their favorite to office, are able to control the government? The extermination of trusts is not the extermination of business. If, for in-

an Democratic League candidate won at the polls and even there our candidates were defeated only by Republican help for the Donnell Ryan organization candidates. The latter, however, are all pledged to Bryan, but will follow the Guffey lead.

The delegates to the State convention are almost all Bryan men. Bryan's friends will control convention, will write platform, select delegates at large and instruct them for Bryan.

Reports spread broadcast from reactionary sources to the effect that Pennsylvania will go to Denver unrepresented and absolutely false.

WARREN NORTH BAILEY, Sec. Bryan Democratic League of Pennsylvania.

The Wood Pulp Resolution for Ban-combe Only.

The Speaker of the national House has introduced his resolution for an independent investigation of the paper trust and the allegations that have been made against it by the publishers. The resolution was passed yesterday and the Speaker appointed an investigating committee. But if any of the standpatters imagine that they are fooling anyone their capacity for self-deception is extraordinary.

Who takes the resolution seriously? Who will take the investigation seriously? In view of its origin and purpose? It will be regarded as an investigation for "Bancombe county only." The new trust busters are in no hurry. Though there is "nothing doing" in Congress, it is not expected that the work will be completed before adjournment. And then the national conventions will monopolize attention, and no one will remember woodpulp. After that the dog days will furnish an excuse for a slow pace.

Our standard friends intend to "ex-

due power through uninstructed delegates may suggest to the rank and file of the party the importance of making their instructions to their representatives at Denver somewhat explicit.

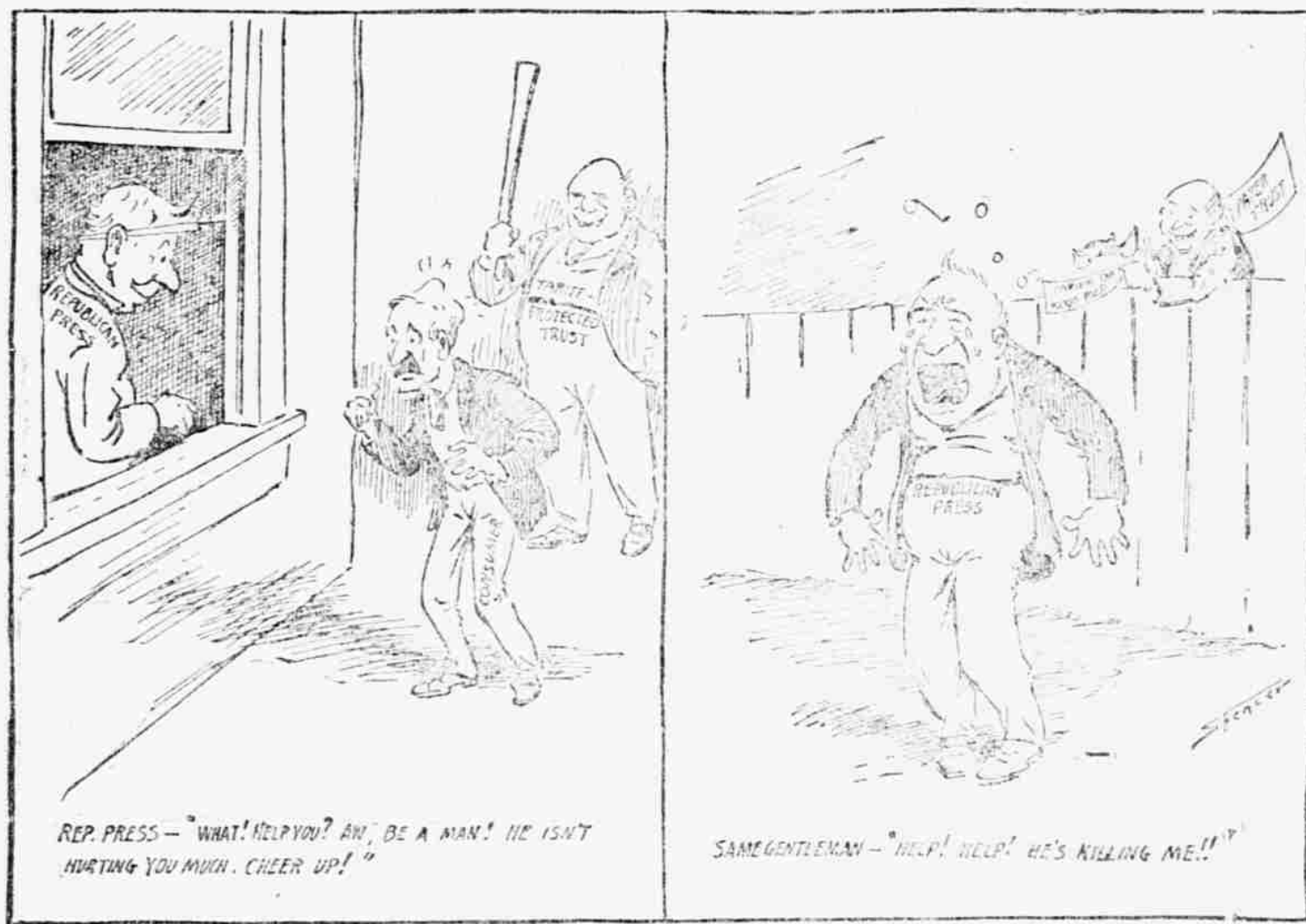
An expression of the desire of the rank and file, through instructions to delegates may prove to be the stumbling block in the way of those who would make the national convention the master, rather than the servant of the party and who would make the party the plaything of predatory interests rather than the champion of the public welfare.

"The Full Dinner Pail."

The State labor department of New York on April 19 issued a bulletin in which it is stated that at the close of 1907 one out of every three union men in the State was idle. The trades union policy is to not only shorten the working day, but to limit the number of working days per week in order to insure work enough for their members to provide against want. For instance, the International Typographical Union has a law prohibiting a member working more than six consecutive days if there is any member of the union looking for work in the local jurisdiction. Many local unions adopted a five-day law early last winter in order to distribute the work among more men. Other unions do the same thing, and this served in large measure to tide many men with families over the winter. But if one out of every three union men in New York State is out of employment, what must be the proportion of jobless men in the unorganized trades and occupations? The campaign slogan of "The full dinner pail" would elicit more jeers than cheers if offered to the workmen of New York today.

The congressional majority will have to do more than adopt "gear rules" if it expects to keep the country in ignorance of the majority's failure to enact beneficial legislation.

Prince Helle de Sagan, who is to marry an American woman of great fortune, is credited by the Associated Press with having said to a New York banker that he



When "the shoe is on the other foot"

stance, a single corporation has a monopoly of the production of a necessary of life, and has ten factories in different States for the production of this particular article, the extermination of this trust would mean the selling off of enough factories to reduce the production of this one corporation to a point where it would no longer have a monopoly. But this would not mean closing up of the factories. The people would still need the article, and the people at large would get to be produced. But the independent factories coming into competition with the original corporation—now no longer a monopoly—would reduce the price of the article, and the people at large would get the benefit of the reduction. With a reduction in price, the people could buy more of the article produced, and this would increase the demand for labor, and new factories would spring up or existing factories would be enlarged. With a number of factories competing for laborers, the laborers' chance of employment would be better, and his wages would be higher. Then, too, with a number of factories competing for raw material, the price of raw material would increase. In other words, the extermination of the trust, instead of destroying business, would restore business to a healthy condition, while it reduced the price of the product, increased the price of raw material and improved the condition of the laboring man. Competition is the natural condition, and the extermination of the trust would restore competition. Monopoly is an unnatural condition, and the Republican party has fostered monopoly and thus built industry upon a false basis to the detriment of all of the parties concerned except the monopolist, and he has been demoralized by his unearned wealth while the rest of the people have been victimized by the practice of monopoly.

Secretary Taft ought to study the trust question a little more, or discuss it less, for each speech reveals his lack of familiarity with the subject or his lack of sympathy with the people at large.

From Pennsylvania.

The following telegram concerning the Pennsylvania Democratic primaries explains itself:

Johnstown, Pa., April 18th, 1908.

The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb.

Fifty-one of the sixty-four district delegates to national convention chosen by popular vote at the uniform primaries are for Bryan.

The Bryan Democratic League candidates in James M. Guffey's district were successful.

Outside Philadelphia nearly every Bry-

plott" the resolution in their "disregards," to point to it with affected pride as a statesmanlike substitute for revision. They will run the risk of hoisting and jousting. Their little game is too transparent. Their only serious argument—that they could not touch wood pulp and paper without reopening the whole tariff question—was gone when it was shown that the admitted need of forest-saving furnished a complete and convincing reason for treating the wood pulp and paper duties as belonging to a separate and distinct category. The House minority is on record as acquiescing in such treatment of these duties. The anxious standpatters know that telling quotations from presidential messages and resolutions of manufacturers and clubs and other organizations were at their disposal to justify to all minds the singling out of the schedule in question for revision at this time. They are reckoning without the common sense and the humor of their constituents.

(The above is not a Commoner editorial. It was not taken from any Democratic paper. It appeared as an editorial in that devoted old Republican newspaper, the Chicago Record-Herald—issue of April 22.)

Why Not Revise?

The Minnesota Republican State convention adopted the platform in which it declares: "We reaffirm the principle of protection of American labor and industries, but we believe the time has come when there should be a revision of the tariff schedules by a Republican Congress."

If "the time has come when there should be a revision of the tariff schedules by a Republican Congress" why does the Republican Congress, now in session, fail to act? Is it difficult for the ordinary man to understand that the people cannot expect a revision in the public interest from a political party that derives its campaign funds from tariff beneficiaries?

Speaking of Stumbling Blocks.

The Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch concludes an editorial relating to the "anti-Bryan movement" in these words: "If ever there was a convention where the power of the uninstructed delegate will be great, not only in the choice of the candidate, but in writing the platform, it will be at Denver. The appreciation of this fact is the stumbling block in the way of those who want no deliberation by the representatives of the people in convention assembled."

But the appreciation of the fact that certain special interests are seeking un-

would leave this country very soon and hoped he would never see America again. This prejudice against American soil seems not, however, to extend to American money.

The proposed plan to have a commission revise the tariff is not nearly so good as the plan of letting the people elect a Congress that will revise it in the interests of the people.

The United States Steel Corporation's 1907 earnings were the greatest in its history. You would look a long while for a tariff revisionist among the managers of that corporation.

Several representatives of public interests at Washington no doubt wish some of the American newspaper reporters would go on strike like those German newspaper men.

A Republican exchange says that Senator La Follette would be more of a Republican if he voted less often with the Democrats. True, but he wouldn't be right nearly so often.

The Pennsylvania man who has just completed a patchwork quilt containing 11,760 pieces ought to be sent to Congress and assigned to the task of drafting a Republican financial bill.

"Indiana Republicans have warmed up to Mr. Fairbanks," declares a contemporary. Yes, and what is warming up to Mr. Fairbanks would be a red hot campaign for almost any other man.

John Smith and others went to Virginia something like three hundred years ago expecting to find gold. The Duke of Albruzzi followed up a few days ago and seems to have located the mine.

A Chicago gentleman who was very prominent in his "defense of the national honor" about eight years ago is now looking to the Supreme Court to save him from a penitentiary sentence.

The New York Evening Post insists that organized labor demands the legalizing of the boycott. The Post is unable to see what organized labor demands is merely that a number of a union may legally do what he might legally do if not a member of the union. In other words, organized labor demands that the possession of a union card shall not deprive a man of his rights as an individual under the law and the constitution.



Protect the meadows when they are soft. Tramping injures them.

For a healthy growth of chicks, a warm, dry and sunny room will compensate for a lack of sunshine.

There is absolutely nothing in common between a dirty cream separator and a gift edged butter product.

In training a horse to walk fast he is not injured in the least for any other gait and can be taught to trot and gallop just as well as before.

The very first symptom of kicking should lead us to dispose of the animal that does it. Life is precious. Never risk it with a horse that kicks.

When a horse gets to gnawing at a manger the best thing to do is to cover everything gnawable with tin. Better do it before the habit is formed, however.

It will be very likely the same chap who failed to test his seed corn before planting it who will be bemoaning his hard luck and cursing the weather and Providence next election time.

When an egg containing a live germ is surrounded by a lot of eggs containing dead ones, it is in no condition to get the proper heat, and will have to be a very vigorous germ if it hatches out at all.

In proportion to contents, there is more shell surface in a small egg than a large one, so that to run an incubator to suit the small egg will be too damp for the larger ones, where moisture is used, and vice versa.

Flax undoubtedly has a place as a substitute of newly broken soils, but is a curse when used anywhere else. In European countries, where this plant is raised year after year and primarily for its fiber, an intensive system of agriculture is followed, together with a heavy fertilizing of the soil.

Because some farmers are not getting rich after having had telephones installed for some years, is no argument against the phone. The telephone has simply put him in a position to meet competition of other business men who have taken advantage of the service which may be gained over the wires.

Don't forget in starting the incubator to clean out the heat or due pipe into which the lamp chimney extends, to put in a brand new wick, to clean all the parts of the lamp thoroughly, having the burners as near as possible as bright as when they are new. Use good sewing machine oil on all the bearing parts of the machine after first carefully removing the dust and dirt.

A simple system of crop rotation that is generally recommended and that not only tends to conserve the fertility of the soil, but results in a maximum destruction of weeds, consists of corn two years, oats one and clover one. Coupled with the points mentioned, the clover, in addition to being a soil renovator, imparts a physical texture that makes it possible to put it in the best possible condition for succeeding crops of whatever kind.

The farmer and gardener, even though he may not have an aesthetic taste which would cause him to protect bird life for its sake alone, if he has but a thought for the size of his pocketbook will do all he can to shield the birds of the community in which he lives from their many enemies. Never before has the place of the birds in the system of nature's economy been more fully appreciated than now and never so high a value placed on the service which they render to man.

In judging horses, like men, you can generally depend a good deal on your first impression. When the first impression is good, you may sometimes discover things that for a while will lead you to think contrary to your first conclusion. However, later on there will, as a rule, be discovered evidences to support the good impression at first gained. By the same process one may start with a poor impression, be argued into a better impression and possibly discover too late that the horse business is fraught with many disappointments.

We are learning that cattle are sure to take the feed we give them if they are lean and in poor rig and lay it on their backs, first of all; then after they are in good condition they will apply the surplus to the milk pail. It is always the surplus that we get. And there will be no surplus if we keep our cows just on the verge of hunger. The Farmers' Voice well says that it is the cow which has been kept well that puts the money in our pockets. Cows poorly treated are our farm charges, to be maintained at the cost of what the best cows do. There should be no such charges; every cow should be a producer.

Keeping the Soil Loose.

Until the ears of corn shall be well filled out, the crop may depend on one

or two showers. If the rain shall fall a day or two before the silk appears the corn grains will be full. The crop is one that is subject to many circumstances, but rain at the proper time will make a great difference. This shows the importance of keeping the surface of the soil loose, thus affording a mulch and preventing loss of moisture.

Cattle Short, Meat Up.

The report comes from Chicago that dearth of shipments of the prime grade of cattle is responsible for the advance on meats, according to the packers. They assert that competition for the choice cuts is stronger now than before the financial pinch. Beef, veal and pork have been soaring upward in price for a week, but with "dressed sheep" quoted at 13 cents a pound to the wholesaler, chicken is cheaper than lamb or mutton chops.

George Duddleston, a veteran wholesale dealer in the meat business in Chicago since 1870, says this is the first time sheep have been quoted at 13 cents. Dressed beef has advanced \$1 a hundred. The latest jump in lamb and mutton was from 3 to 5 cents, and pork was increased 2 cents a pound. Veal is the only meat that has not increased.

Profit in Poultry.

One farmer down East, in order to find out where the leaks and where the gains were, kept an exact account with every department of his farm. He discovered that he was losing money on his beef cattle, that hogs just paid for themselves, that sheep were good if his lambs came early, and that the poultry made the largest per cent of profit of any feature of his farm. The result was that he quit fooling with beef and hogs and put more money and time into poultry. The increased prosperity on that farm was so marked that he wrote out for publication his experience.

Because a hen is small and a steer is big is a child's reason for having contempt for the former and respect for the latter, says Farmers' Voice. One of the biggest money makers in the world is the street car business, which depends entirely upon its income of 5-cent sales. A stick of chewing gum costs but a penny, yet just recently a syndicate was organized with over \$1,000,000 capital to make "trust chewing gum." It will pay the farmer and his wife to consider the money there may be made in poultry if wisely directed. Organize the hen on a business basis; put up new, clean, airy quarters; get proper egg-making feeds; learn the value of cleanliness, light, warmth and sunshine in winter; get a good incubator and control your hatches so that you will have winter layers, broilers, etc., when they are most profitable. You will soon learn that for the money invested and labor required, the hen is the most economical and highly efficient converter of rough feeds into money you have ever tried.

Farm Profession.

It is well in the higher education that the candidates for all professions drink at the fountain of common knowledge. It is only after acquiring an education that the mind is broadened to choose a profession adapted to its innate taste and qualifications. It were better that the young man make a good lawyer or pharmacist than an indifferent farmer. The professions need to be recuperated from the sources of natural supply, which embrace natural qualifications inherited from national character. The fact that a boy is born on the farm does not necessarily destine him for an agriculturist, and education will bring out his latent talents and reveal to himself the profession to which he is best adapted.

The inhabitants of cities are made up of a population from all sources. The city-born boy may inherit the instinct of a farmer and find his greatest success in life in following husbandry. He wants to get back to nature and live the simple life, free from the strife and tumult of a great city. He should be encouraged to follow his natural inclination and achieve the destiny for which he is qualified by nature.

While philosophy and general knowledge are taught in the public schools, the general curriculum should include a primary course in agriculture. A profession which includes nearly one-third of the population and produces more wealth than any other occupation should be exploited in the public schools. So indissolubly is agriculture associated with national prosperity in all governments of the world that the leading nations of Europe have added a primary course in agriculture to the common school curriculum. If it accomplishes no other good it will inspire attention to the benefits of farm life as a vocation to many who are pre-eminently adapted to the profession. It gives every boy a chance to see the advantages of husbandry and an opportunity to decide to follow agriculture or some other profession. To one who is adapted to agriculture husbandry is the most exalted and independent of the professions, but to one with innate talents for some other vocation farming will prove a failure.—Goodall's Farmer.